

RE: Blue Water Bridge

From: "Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR" <meaghan.sunderland@international.gc.ca>
To: "Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS" <stefano.maron@international.gc.ca>, "Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Bufalo -GR" <rachael.homewood@international.gc.ca>, "Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR" <christine.connell@international.gc.ca>
Cc: "Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD" <frank.stendardo@international.gc.ca>, "Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS" <kirsten.kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Date: Thu, 10 Feb 2022 20:01:37 +0000

Thanks, Stefano. We were wrapped up in a retreat at that time, so couldn't possibly have joined you. As I'm sure you've seen, a protest is planned for this weekend at the Peace Bridge. https://buffalonews.com/news/local/as-trucks-back-up-on-u-s-side-troopers-prepare-for-protests-at-border-crossings/article_8180fda4-8a7e-11ec-a470-5bb2101cf031.amp.html

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 10, 2022 2:59 PM
To: Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR <Meaghan.Sunderland@international.gc.ca>; Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Bufalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine - DTROT -GR <Christine.CConnell@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten - WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Meaghan, Rachael, the meeting with Higgins' office ended up happening at 11 am today. Nothing really to report – they are just concerned and wanted to hear the latest from us.

They still anticipate activity at the Peace Bridge this weekend. They noted slowdowns yesterday at the bridge but are unable to confirm if they're due to protestors or simply because working truckers are having to re-route through the peace bridge.

sm

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS
Sent: February 9, 2022 10:42 AM
To: Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR <Meaghan.Sunderland@international.gc.ca>; Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Bufalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine - DTROT -GR <Christine.CConnell@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten - WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

No problem – will do, and happy to report back if you're unable to join.

Stefano

From: Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR <Meaghan.Sunderland@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 9, 2022 10:41 AM
To: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>; Homewood, Rachael - CNGNY/Bufalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR

<Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Hi Stefano,

We actually have a number of meetings this aft so not sure how feasible this will be, but please let us know when the call will happen and we'll join if we can.

cheers,

Meaghan

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 9, 2022 10:16 AM

To: Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Buffalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>; Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR

<Meaghan.Sunderland@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Racheal, Meaghan, we're trying to schedule a call with Higgins' office for this afternoon. Would you like to join?

From: Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Buffalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 9, 2022 10:12 AM

To: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS

<Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>; Sunderland, Meaghan -CNGNY -GR

<Meaghan.Sunderland@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Christine,

Thank you for forwarding this. I checked with the PBA General Manager yesterday and he told me he hadn't heard of anything yet at the Peace Bridge.

Rachael

From: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 9, 2022 10:07 AM

To: Homewood, Rachael -CNGNY/Buffalo -GR <Rachael.Homewood@international.gc.ca>

Subject: FW: Blue Water Bridge

FYI Peace Bridge

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>

Sent: February 9, 2022 10:04 AM

To: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>

Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Thanks Christine. FYI, we just got a heads up from Buffalo Congressman Brian Higgins' office that a convoy is being planned at the Peace Bridge this Saturday.

From: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.CConnell@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 9, 2022 10:00 AM
To: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Local reporting from Windsor media is that more vehicles joined the blockade over night in Windsor. The gridlock in Port Huron has grown due to truck rerouting. I understand many trucks are now taking turnpike across Ohio to use Buffalo crossing, so that might ease the travel demand somewhat for the Bluewater as time goes on.

Yesterday Gov. Whitmer quoted in response to a question:

"The Canadian policies are not an area I jump into or am going to weigh in on," said Gov. Whitmer.

"But I can tell you the practical effect of this blockage and slow down is gonna have, could have a real impact on Michigan business, and that's my biggest concern."

<https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/local/2022/02/09/fallout-from-shutdown-of-ambassador-bridge-spills-onto-us-soil-causing-concerns-for-businesses/>

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 8, 2022 3:38 PM
To: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.CConnell@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Thanks, Christine. This is very helpful.

We can keep you posted if we hear from the Michigan delegation here so that we all remain on the same page.

From: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.CConnell@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 8, 2022 2:44 PM
To: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

DTROT HoM is in conversation with the Gov's office today, same questions from them—looking for comment on Canada's strategy on this issue.

We have also been contacted by Senator Peters' office asking if we have any information to share RE Canada's position concerning the demonstrations impacting the Amb Bridge.

MDOT is still advising AMB Bridge is closed and commercial drivers should use Port Huron/Bluewater crossing. Wait times at that crossing are currently over 90 minutes in both directions for commercial vehicles. There does seem to be widespread speculation that the protest will return to that location. I have reached out to Bluewater operator for any intel. Will let you know if I learn anything.

Thanks, Christine

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 8, 2022 2:30 PM
To: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Many thanks for this, Frank.

sm

From: Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 8, 2022 2:28 PM
To: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>; Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Blue Water Bridge

Stefano,

I've seen info from City of Detroit Homeland Security that indicates no concrete evidence (1pm) that protestors are definitely en route to Sarnia. However, it is likely that the Ambassador Bridge may remain closed today and overnight.

And from BWB:

- Reported plan of protesters is to halt traffic at the BWB.
- As of 13:30 on February 8, 2022, traffic is significantly backed up for both east and westbound traffic at the BWB
 - o Eastbound is backed up at I-69 EB at Wadhams
 - o Westbound traffic is backed up to the Airport Rd exit on Highway 402 westbound.

From: Maron, Stefano -WSHDC -WS <Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca>
Sent: February 8, 2022 12:36 PM
To: Connell, Christine -DTROT -GR <Christine.Connell@international.gc.ca>; Stendardo, Frank -WSHDC -TD <Frank.Stendardo@international.gc.ca>
Cc: Kazlauskas, Kirsten -WSHDC -WS <Kirsten.Kazlauskas@international.gc.ca>
Subject: Blue Water Bridge

Hi Christine and Frank,

Governor Whitmer's office has reached out to our intergovernmental team to ask if we are aware of protests/blockades moving from the Ambassador Bridge to the Blue Water Bridge. Christine, I believe you mentioned that truckers looking to cross the border have rerouted from the Ambassador Bridge to Blue Water, so it would make sense for protestors to follow – but are either of you aware that this is indeed their plan?

With thanks,
Stefano

Stefano Maron

First Secretary | Premier secrétaire

Congressional Affairs | Affaires du Congrès

Embassy of Canada to the United States | Ambassade du Canada aux États-Unis

T: 202-682-7740 | M: 202-528-2283 | Stefano.Maron@international.gc.ca



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